

	<p><i>School of Arts & Science</i> SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT</p> <p>GEOG 111 Natural Hazards Spring 2012</p>
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COURSE OUTLINE

1. Course Description

This course will provide students with a first exposure to physical geography through the lens of natural hazards; that is, natural environmental processes that threaten human health and property. Topics will include natural and human systems that create hazards, earthquakes and related hazards, volcanoes, landslides and avalanches, coastal and river hazards, and weather- and climate-related hazards. Several lab exercises will introduce technical skills related to hazard assessment and mitigation. An emphasis on current events will be maintained. This course is intended for both science and non-science majors.

Note: The official Approved Course Description is available on the web at <http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/web/geog.html>

- *Please note: this outline will be electronically stored for five (5) years only. It is strongly recommended students keep this outline for your records.*

2. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Catherine Griffiths
(b)	Office Hours:	TBA
(c)	Location:	F318D
(d)	Phone:	370-3370
(e)	Email:	griffiths@camosun.bc.ca
(f)	Website:	http://online.camosun.ca

3. Intended Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course students will be able to:

1. Describe the natural environmental processes that underlie natural hazards.
2. Explain how human development and planning influence natural hazard risk.
3. Acquire some basic risk assessment and mitigation tools related to natural hazards.

4. Course Materials

(a)	Text	<p><u>Required:</u> Keller, E.A., R.H. Blodgett and J.J. Clague, 2011. <i>Natural Hazards, 2nd Canadian Edition</i>. Toronto: Pearson Education Canada, 464 pp.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is available in the book store, as an e-book or hardcopy, • There also will be a reserve copy in the library.
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5. Course Content and Schedule

- **Lectures:** This class has two four-hour blocks on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Attendance is essential. I will post basic lecture outlines on D2L: online.camosun.ca. These outlines are no substitute for coming to class!
- **Readings** are an essential part of this course – they provide depth and context that are indispensable to your understanding of the course material, and they will be tested. Specific reading assignments are detailed below; these may be modified as the term goes on.
- **Assignments:** A variety of assignments must be completed for this class. Due dates will be given on the assignment handouts. I reserve the right to impose a 10% per day penalty on late assignments. Late assignments will not be accepted after I have returned them marked. Anyone cheating or copying work will receive a mark of zero on the assignment.
 - There are 8 lab assignments for this course. Only seven will be counted in your mark, lowest mark will be eliminated.
 - One class will be devoted to a video and discussion on climate change. You must hand in notes on the video at the end of class.
 - There will be 4 discussion or group exercise over the course, these will be in class and attendance is required.
- **Field Trip:** In this course, there will be a mandatory field trip to the Mount Douglas Park. You must attend and take notes, to be handed in at the end of the trip. Transportation details will be arranged in class.
- **Exams:** There will be three short exams over the duration of this course. The format for these will be a combination of multiple choice, short answer and long answer questions. They mainly will emphasize the lecture material, though lab material will also be drawn upon.
- **Illness, etc.:** If you miss a lab or exam due to illness or some other serious reason, I must ask you to provide a doctor's note or other documentation to support your story. Otherwise, a mark of zero for the missed assignment will be given. Exams and field trips are hard to reschedule, so try not to miss them unless you are too sick to perform at a normal level.

Students who miss an exam for a valid reason must contact me within 24 hours with an explanation. In such cases, one makeup exam time will be scheduled, and all students needing it will be expected to attend.

COURSE SCHEDULE (Subject to change at instructor's discretion):

Geography 111: Natural Hazards, Schedule for Spring 2012

DATES	WK	DAY	Part 1: 8:30 - 10:15	Part 2: 10:40 - 12:10	Reading
May 8/10	1	Tues	Intro course	Hazard systems	Chapter 1
		Thurs	Earth systems	Lab 1: Reading a Topographic Map	Physical Geography online text
May 15/17	2	Tues	Earthquakes	Lab 2: Earthquakes	Chapter 2
		Thurs	Tsunamis	Lab 6 assigned /speaker	Chapter 3
May 22/24	3	Tues	Exam 1	Volcanos	Chapter 4
		Thurs	Landslides	Lab 3: Landslides	Chapter 5
May 29/31	4	Tues	Coastal processes	Lab 4: Coastal Hazards (computer lab)	Chapter 10
		Thurs	Mt. Doug Field Trip	Field notes	
June 5/7	5	Tues	Flooding	Lab 5: Flood plain	Chapter 8
		Thurs	Exam 2 / Atmosphere and Weather	Lab 6: Atmosphere Lab Work time	Chapter 9
June 12/14	6	Tues	Drought and Fire	Video/speaker	Chapter 11
		Thurs	Climate Change	Lab 7: Climate Lab (computer lab)	Chapter 12
June 19/21	7	Tues	Ecosystems and Hazards	Lab 8: Ecoshift Lab (computer lab)	Online reading
		Thurs	Video: Hazards	Exam 3	

6. Basis of Student Assessment

Evaluation will be based on accuracy, thoroughness, and neatness. As a general rule, always show your work and keep track of units of measure! When I grade your work, I am looking for proof of your understanding, so do everything clearly and carefully – that way you may get partial credit, even for wrong answers. I endeavour to mark things fairly and consistently, but if you have a question about my assessment, feel free to come to my office and ask about it.

(a)	Labs (7 of 8, 5% each)	35%
(b)	Discussion/Participation	6%
(c)	Video / Field Trip Notes	5%
(d)	Exams (3 @ 18% each)	54%
	Total	100%

7. Grading System

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D		1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy at camosun.ca or information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete:</i> A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	<i>In progress:</i> A temporary grade assigned for courses that are designed to have an anticipated enrollment that extends beyond one term. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course.
CW	<i>Compulsory Withdrawal:</i> A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at camosun.ca for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

8. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College calendar, at Student Services or the College web site at camosun.ca.

STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services and on the College web site in the Policy Section.